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December 17, 1940.

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SHORT COMBAT ESTIMATE

GERMANY

1. Army.

The German Army consists of at least 220 combat divisions of all types. Approximately 5,000,000 men are mobilized in the Army. These figures do not represent the maximum German effort. A further 100 divisions could be mobilized if needed. At least 12, and possibly 16, of these divisions are armored units. The number of armored units will be increased in the coming months.

Adequate materiel of all categories is possessed by this Army. Ample reserves and large manufacturing capacities also stand ready to replenish lost weapons or expenditures of ammunition to any degree desired.

The leadership of the Army has been tested and proven in battle against first class adversaries. Germany possesses an excellent group of generals and an officer corps of better than average quality, which, to date, has suffered no serious blood loss.

The morale of the troops is high as a result of their rapid and overwhelming victories in Poland, Norway, the Low Countries, and France. The Army has full confidence in the political and military leadership of the nation.

The German Army is distributed all over Central and Northern Europe. Its principal concentrations are as follows:

Scandinavia	13 Divisions
France-Belgium	57 Divisions
Pyrenees	12 Divisions
Poland	65 Divisions
Central Germany	42 Divisions
Southeastern Germany	31 Divisions
Total	220 Divisions.

2. Air Force.

The German Air Force consists of some 600 squadrons with 9,000 front line planes. Its personnel strength is believed to be 1,000,000 men.

This air force is distributed in five air fleets. Three of these face England from Norway to Brest. One remains at home for the

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defense of Germany, while the remaining one, centered around Vienna, appears designated for operations either in Southeastern or Eastern Europe.

The German air industry is believed to be producing some 3,500 aircraft of all types monthly. This air industry is being expanded, and efforts are also under way to utilize the captured French air industry for a further air expansion.

It is estimated that by September 1, 1941, the German Air Force will amount to 30 Air Divisions with 1,200 squadrons and 18,000 first line planes.

The morale of the German Air Force is high. Despite obvious mistakes made by the air commanders in recent operations over England, the German air leadership is considered competent.

3. Navy.

The German Navy is hopelessly inferior in combat power to the British Navy.

In surface craft, Germany possesses only

- 4 Battleships,
- 1 Aircraft Carrier,
- 9 Cruisers (inclusive of 2 pocket battleships),
- 20 Destroyers,

as well as considerable numbers of smaller surface craft of various types.

The German Navy possesses a strong submarine fleet of about 130 units. This submarine fleet, supported by bombing and reconnaissance units of the Air Force, is waging unrestricted warfare on British shipping in the Atlantic ocean and, particularly, in the waters north of Ireland. This war on shipping is being further supported by increasingly severe attacks by surface warships and armed merchantmen in the outer oceans.

The effectiveness of these German naval operations is largely based on its possession of important naval bases along the west Norwegian coast and in France, from Cherbourg to the Pyrenees. This enables both German overseas and underseas raiders to attack the British maritime routes of communications without having to run the British defenses of the Straits of Dover or the North Sea mine barrage, as was the case in the World War.

Germany is believed to be completing 20 submarines monthly. Through her occupation of Northern and Western Europe, she has gained possession of considerable shipbuilding facilities. The use to which she has already put these facilities, or her future plans with regard thereto, is unknown.

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The morale of the German Navy is excellent. Its leadership appears efficient and enterprising.

4. Armed Forces.

The German armed forces possess the numerical strength, weapons, leadership, and general combat efficiency to strike effectively in any direction on the continent of Europe. These armed forces do not appear to be in a position to invade Great Britain, and they can give only limited assistance to Italy in Libya.

A German offensive in the Balkans is dependent on a diplomatic agreement between Germany and Russia.

A German offensive toward Gibraltar is dependent on a diplomatic agreement between Germany and Spain.

In neither of these latter cases is it considered justifiable to assume that a German offensive will occur. In both areas, however, such an offensive is a possibility which must be taken into account.